Peter C. Harvey, Attorney General

JERSEY

Division of Elections Ramón de la Cruz, Director For Immediate Release: June 18, 2004

For Further Information Contact: Lee Moore (609) 292-4791

PUBLIC

## **Elections Director de la Cruz Named Representative to NASED Executive Board**

DEPARTMENT OF

TRENTON – New Jersey Division of Elections Director Ramón de la Cruz has been named Northeast Regional Representative to the Executive Board of the National Association of State Election Directors (NASED).

"It is my privilege to be named to the Executive Board, and to bring to the Board the valuable experience that I've gained working collaboratively with our county and municipal election officials throughout the state," said de la Cruz.

The NASED Executive Board makes decisions on behalf of NASED with regard to such issues as voting standards, voting technology, and elections administration. In addition, NASED leaders have testified before Congress concerning the federal Help America Vote Act of 2002, and other elections-related issues.

"As a non-partisan organization of election administrators from states and territories of the U.S., NASED is tremendously pleased to announce that Ramón de la Cruz, our colleague from New Jersey, will now be our eastern regional representative. Ramón brings unique talents and perspectives to the group and we are fortunate in having him on our executive board," said Denise Lamb, President of NASED and Director of Elections for the State of New Mexico. De la Cruz is also the first person of Hispanic heritage to serve on NASED and the only person of Hispanic heritage nation-wide serving as Director of Elections.

"This is the first time that New Jersey has been involved, as a voting member at the Executive Board level, in many years," said de la Cruz. "I look forward to working with my NASED colleagues and discussing the many vital elections-related issues confronting our nation as we collaborate in successfully implementing the Help America Vote Act of 2002 (HAVA)."

Prior to being named Director of the Division of Elections, de la Cruz served as Assistant Prosecutor in the Hudson County's Prosecutor's Office. De la Cruz also serves on the New Jersey Supreme Court, Advisory Committee on Professional Ethics.

###